

Scholastic

Clay

Target

Program

Official 2008 Handbook



A program of the National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.





www.mynsca.com



www.nssf.org





www.mynssa.com



www.trapandfield.com



www.sportingclays.net

Skeet Shooting

www.mynssa.com



www.shotgunsportsmagazine.com







www.federalpremium.com



www.shotgunsportsmagazine.com



www.beretta.com



The Best There Is www.browning.com





www.whiteflyer.com

Remington.

www.remington.com

GLOSSARY OF TERMS & ABBREVIATIONS

<u>Category</u>: Entry Level, Advanced, Junior Varsity and Varsity.

<u>Discipline</u>: Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays, International Skeet, and Olympic

Trap (Bunker).

<u>Division</u>: Rookie, Intermediate, Senior.

Head Coach: The team coach serving as the primary point of contact between

SCTP Headquarters and everyone involved with the team.

NGB: National Governing Body.

NGB #: Membership ID # assigned to the participant by the NGB.

NGB Partners: ATA: Amateur Trapshooting Association [for Trap]

NSCA: National Sporting Clays Association [for Sporting Clays].

NSSA: National Skeet Shooting Association [for Skeet]

NSSF*: National Shooting Sports Foundation*.

USAS: USA Shooting [International Skeet and Bunker Trap]

NGB Target Years: ATA: (Trap) September 1 - August 31

NSSA: (Skeet) November 1 - October 31

NSCA: (Sporting Clays) January 1 - December 31

NPS: National Program Staff

Registered Target: Targets shot at an event sanctioned by the NGB for the

discipline.

SCTPSM: Scholastic Clay Target ProgramSM.

SCTP Season: Begins September 1.

Team: All individuals (the head coach, coaches and all Rookie,

Intermediate, and Senior Division shooters) registered under the same Head Coach at a "Home" Gun Club or Shooting

Facility in a specific discipline.

Valid Squad: A basic competitive unit. Consists of five (5) persons for

Trap or three (3) for Skeet and Sporting Clays. Members must be registered in the same discipline and division to the same team. For International Skeet and Olympic Trap (Bunker) a squad consists of three (3) members in the same discipline

registered to the same team.

SCHOLASTIC CLAY TARGET PROGRAM



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SCHOLASTIC CLAY TARGET PROGRAM



OFFICIAL RULES

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. developed and administers the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP). The SCTP is a YOUTH DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM focused on providing young people with a positive experience in sports. The SCTP is designed to instill in young people a set of personal values or character traits that teaches fair play, compassionate understanding, individual responsibility, sportsmanship, self-discipline and personal commitment - qualities that will serve them well throughout their lives and will be instrumental in helping each SCTP participant to reach his/her full potential.

Competition is clearly a part of the SCTP, but it is not the program's underlying principle. The "win-at-all-costs" philosophy has no place in the SCTP. Striving to win while playing by the rules does. It is the DUTY of everyone involved in the SCTP – coaches, parents, and participants – to set good examples for SCTP team members to emulate by upholding high moral and ethical standards of personal conduct.

SCTP activities are designed to incorporate two indispensable elements – SAFETY AND FUN. SAFETY is incorporated into every facet of every SCTP activity. The learning environment at team practices and at competitive shoots is designed to include the element of FUN for all participants. SCTP participants learn the safe and responsible handling and use of firearms. They discover the joy of contributing to a shared team goal and the commitment that goes along with it. During this self-discovery process team members develop proficiency in a sport that can be shared and enjoyed with family and friends for a lifetime.

Youth from the elementary grades through high school are eligible to participate in the safe, educational and enjoyable SCTP clay target sports of Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays and Olympic Trap and Skeet. The National Governing Body for each of these clay target sports has partnered with the National Shooting Sports Foundation to provide opportunities for SCTP teams to compete at the state and national levels.

The following rules are set forth to ensure and promote the safe and equitable treatment of all SCTP participants:

1. SCTP DISCIPLINES, SANCTIONING BODIES AND DIVISIONS

A. Disciplines

The Scholastic Clay Target Program offers opportunities for TEAMS to participate in these disciplines: TRAP, SKEET, SPORTING CLAYS, INTERNATIONAL SKEET AND OLYMPIC TRAP (BUNKER).

B. Sanctioning Body

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. is the sanctioning body for the Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP). The SCTP National Program Staff addresses all issues related to management of the SCTP.

C. SCTP Partners - National Governing Bodies for Clay Target Sports

The SCTP has partnered with four National Governing Bodies sanctioning clay target sports in the United States. All SCTP competitive events, including the SCTP State and National Championships, will be conducted in accordance with the rules for the clay target sport as set forth by the National Governing Bodies (NGB) listed below:

TRAP - Amateur Trapshooting Association (ATA) www.shootata.com

AMERICAN SKEET – National Skeet Shooting Association (NSSA) www.mynssa.com

SPORTING CLAYS – National Sporting Clays Association (NSCA) www.mynsca.com

INTERNATIONAL SKEET AND OLYMPIC TRAP (BUNKER) – USA Shooting (USAS) www.usashooting.org

Rulebooks for each sport are available directly from the appropriate NGB. Contact an NGB by going to its respective Web site.

D. Membership Requirements for SCTP State & National Championship Events Everyone competing at the SCTP State and National Championships MUST be a member of the National Governing Body for the discipline contested.

Annual Junior Membership Fee Structure for SCTP Team Members:

Amateur Trapshooting Association.......\$12
National Sporting Clays Association......\$20
National Skeet Shooting Association.....\$20
USA Shooting.....\$20

Crossfire Program: In an effort to increase registered shooting, the NSSA/NSCA Boards unanimously approved implementation of the new Crossfire Program. Starting in shooting year 2008 for both NSSA and NSCA members you will be able to shoot registered targets in both skeet and sporting clays without paying an additional membership fee. Check out www.mynssa.com for more details

E. National Governing Body (NGB) Target Years

Each of these National Governing Bodies registers its members' targets on a 12-month Target Year cycle.

NATIONAL GOVERNING BODY TARGET YEARS			
TRAP	September 1 - August 31		
SPORTING CLAYS	January 1 - December 31		
SKEET	November 1 - October 31		

USAS bases your numbers on the last 3 matches fired and membership is renewable 1 year from the date you join.

F. Divisions Determined by School Grade Level

Within each of the SCTP disciplines there are three competitive groupings or Divisions. These groupings are designed to allow participants to compete on a level playing field with one another. GRADE LEVEL in school NOT AGE is the criteria used to populate the Divisions.

SCTP Competitive Divisions

ROOKIE DIVISIONYouth in the 5th grade or below INTERMEDIATE DIVISIONYouth in the 6th through 8th grades SENIOR DIVISIONYouth in the 9th through 12th grades

ROOKIE DIVISION (Grades 5 & Under)

Time in this division is NOT counted toward "time in" when determining Intermediate and Senior Division categories.

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION (Grades 6-8)

ENTRY LEVEL - 1st year of SCTP participation ONLY ADVANCED - 2nd or 3rd year of SCTP participation

SENIOR DIVISION (Grades 9-12 Only)

<u>JR VARSITY</u> - New SCTP members for 1st year of participation. Graduating SCTP members from the Intermediate Division/ Entry Level category ONLY (currently beginning 2nd year of participation).

<u>VARSITY</u> - Graduating SCTP members from the Intermediate Division/ Advanced Category (currently beginning at least 3rd year of participation). All other SENIOR Division SCTP members that do not qualify for the JR Varsity category according to the definition supplied.

G. Grade Level Determination

Students passing the 8th grade after January 1 in the current SCTP season and waiting to enter the 9th grade are not 9th grade students for SCTP purposes and must compete in the Intermediate Division. Students passing the 5th grade and waiting to enter the 6th grade after January 1 in the current SCTP season are not 6th grade students for SCTP purposes and must compete in the Rookie Division. Home-schooled students compete in the Division commensurate with their grade level as of January 1 in the current SCTP season.

2. PARTICIPANT ELIGIBILITY

A. Student Status and Age

All school age youths in Grades 12 and under with the physical, mental and emotional maturity to participate in a team sport are eligible to participate in the SCTP. Participants must be bona fide students enrolled in a primary, elementary, middle, junior or senior high school or enrolled in a home schooled program and deemed academically eligible to participate in school sponsored sports. SCTP program eligibility ends with graduation from high school, or once a student reaches his/her 20th birthday, whichever comes first. The National SCTP Program Office has the option to grant a variance for age in view of special circumstances. High school graduates with graduation dates in the fall semester and the spring semester of the current SCTP Target Year are eligible to compete in their discipline's SCTP State and National Championships. Some state programs may have additional age restrictions.

B. Academic Performance

Team members must make satisfactory academic progress and be deemed eligible to participate in extra-curricular activities as determined by school officials at their home school.

C. Conduct of Participants

ALL SCTP participants must:

- ✓ Properly conduct themselves as LADIES and GENTLEMEN at ALL times.
- ✓ Display COURTESY and CONSIDERATION to team members, coaches, other competitors and shoot officials.
- ✓ Neither LIE, CHEAT nor STEAL nor TOLERATE those who do.
- ✓ Exhibit good SPORTSMANSHIP, win or lose.
- ✓ Be in GOOD STANDING with the National Governing Body and its State Association of the SCTP discipline(s) in which they participate.

Breaches of the SPIRIT as well as the LETTER of SCTP rules WILL be grounds for SUSPENSION or EXPULSION from the program. Infractions of National Governing Body rules will be considered the same as an infraction of SCTP rules. Any sanctions imposed by an NGB WILL be recognized and enforced by the SCTP.

D. Division Determination

Team members registered in a specific SCTP Division MUST compete in that Division AND ONLY in that Division for the ENTIRE SCTP Target Year. The SCTP Target Year concludes with the SCTP National Championship for each of the disciplines. Many SCTP State Championships and all SCTP National Championships will be conducted after the school year has concluded. Those rising 6th grade (Rookie Division) and 9th grade (Intermediate Division) students and recent high school graduates (Senior Division), members of an officially recognized SCTP team during the last school year, are eligible to compete with their team in SCTP State and National Championships so long as both championships are held in the same SCTP Target Year.

3. TEAMS

A. Team Composition

All participants <u>MUST</u> be members of an officially recognized SCTP Team. A team may choose to recruit its members from a single school; however, students attending schools sponsoring SCTP teams <u>should</u> shoot for the school team. Teams may also be composed of members from neighborhoods, churches, gun clubs and youth groups such as 4-H Clubs, Boy Scout Troops, FFA Chapters, J.R.O.T.C. Programs, Venturing Crews, Girl Scouts, Police Athletic Leagues, American Legion Posts and V.F.W. Posts to name but a few.

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: Some state programs have specific rules regarding team composition. Please contact your state director for details pertaining to your states SCTP guidelines. Your state director's contact information is listed on the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp under state directors. If your state has created it's own SCTP state Web site the link will be listed under the State Directors contact information.

B. Team Focus

The intent of the SCTP is to provide participants with the opportunity to be a member of a TEAM. A team is composed of a group of individuals who are committed to a common goal and who work together regularly to achieve that goal. Ultimately, to achieve this unity of purpose requires team members to spend quality time together in activities other than just shooting. Team members are required to practice on a regular basis with their team and coach and are expected and encouraged to actively participate in team fund raising efforts and community-service projects.

C. "Cherry Picking"

"Cherry picking" individuals from within or from outside a state to form either a local team or a "State All-Star Team" is strictly prohibited. Putting together a group of "hot shots", "all-stars" or a "paper team" (a team in name only that does not meet the "Regular Basis" practice criteria) to compete at SCTP State or National Championships runs counter to the letter and the spirit of the SCTP and is expressly prohibited. VIOLATORS OF THIS RULE WILL BE DISQUALIFIED.

D. Irrevocable Decision

Participants may not be a member of nor compete for more than one team in a specific SCTP discipline during any one SCTP target year. Once a participant registers with a team, the decision is an irrevocable one that remains in effect for the entire SCTP target year for that discipline.

4. TEAM REQUIREMENTS

A. Coach

A team <u>MUST</u> have an **ADULT COACH** who is 21 years of age or older. A SCTP coach's first and foremost responsibility is to **ENSURE THE SAFETY** of all participants. Coaches MUST emphasize the safe handling and use of firearms in every facet of the Scholastic Clay Target Program. Coaches must be willing to conduct practices for the team on a "Regular Basis" (see Definition of Regular Basis, rule 4-D).

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B. Team - Minimum Requirement

The Basic Competitive Unit in the SCTP is the SQUAD. A coach must register a minimum of one full VALID SQUAD (see glossary) in at least ONE of the five disciplines offered in the SCTP. Signed parental consent forms must be submitted to SCTP National Headquarters, in order to have an OFFICIALLY RECOGNIZED SCTP TEAM. A full squad for TRAP is FIVE members; for SKEET and SPORTING CLAYS it is THREE members. There is NO UPPER LIMIT to the number of individuals that can be registered on a team and, thus, no limit to the number of squads per team. Teams may field as many squads as they can recruit members to fill them. Squads are a subdivision of the team.

C. "Home" Gun Club or Shooting Facility

Teams must denominate one gun club or shooting facility as its "Home" Gun Club or Shooting Facility of record at the time of registration. A team will be officially recognized at only ONE gun club or shooting facility per discipline per SCTP target year. This "Home" Gun Club or Shooting Facility is the place where the team meets to practice with its coach (or coaches) on a "Regular Basis" (see Definition of Regular Basis, rule 4-D).

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: Individuals living near a state line may register at a Home Gun Club in a state other than their home state of residence so long as they meet the terms of participation as outlined above. An individual may NOT be registered at more than ONE Home Gun Club per discipline no matter where the Home Gun Club is physically or legally located. Individuals shooting more than one discipline MAY register at a different Home Gun Club for each discipline.

D. Definition of "Regular Basis" for Practices

Coaches must conduct a minimum of SIX (6) team practice sessions - each on a separate day - for the team members at the team's home gun club or shooting facility with each team member shooting a minimum of 25 targets at each practice session. Team members must attend SIX (6) team practice sessions in order to be eligible to shoot in a SCTP State or National Championship event. Registered shoots are NOT to be counted as practice sessions.

E. Fund Raising

A team is responsible for its own funding including practice, travel and shoot fees.

F. Community Service

Teams are expected to become involved in a community-service project that contributes to the betterment of the place where they live.

5. TEAM REGISTRATION PROCESS

A. Requirement for Registration

The SCTP Coach is responsible for registering team members. Coaches and only coaches may register teams. To become an **OFFICIALLY REGISTERED SCTP Team** a coach must initially register the minimum number of participants to form a SCTP Basic Competitive Unit or SQUAD (five for Trap, three for American Skeet and Sporting Clays) within ONE of the three SCTP

Divisions Rookie, Intermediate or Senior. Each participant must be in good standing academically and eligible to participate in extra curricular scholastic activities.

B. Online SCTP Team Registration

Coaches should register their teams via www.nssf.org/sctp by clicking the "Register or Login" tab in the left hand corner of the SCTP homepage. The club selection or new information and the coach's personal information will need to be entered and payment of the team registration fee will be required in order to complete this step. These entries will produce a record that will be forwarded to a holding queue that SCTP Headquarters must review and accept (please allow 3 business days). Once accepted, the coach will receive a confirmation email providing a Web site access code. The coach may then go back to the Web site, and via the Login tab, login, using the access code sent in the confirmation email, and enter the team members information. A completed copy of the Parental Consent and Waiver Form and the Medical Consent form must be in the coaches possession prior to registering any participant. Participants may be entered at any given time, up to 30 days prior to the designated SCTP State Championship. Entering the initial team registration record by April 30 will ensure that the team will not be subject to a "late" registration fee. Teams that register a minimum of one full VALID SQUAD via the Web site by March 31, will earn one (1) team entry into a prize drawing for five (5) flats of ammunition (5 winning teams will be drawn).

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: Coaches MUST retain a copy of each completed parental consent form and mail the copy with the original signature to SCTP Headquarters to be received no later than the 30 day registration deadline. Coaches MUST KEEP the original Medical Consent Form, SCTP Headquarters does not require copies of this form. Random spot checks for document retention will be conducted regularly. Coaches must comply with information requests from headquarters. Failure to produce the required information will result in removal from the program.

C. Team Registration

Registration forms may be downloaded from the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp located under Team Resources for Coaches.

D. Registration Deadline

A team must be registered no later than **30 days** prior to its respective discipline's SCTP State Championship in order to be eligible to compete in the SCTP State Championship.

E. Required Registration Forms

SCTP Parental Consent and Waiver Forms must be filed annually. **Team registration will officially open September 1** for each new SCTP season and is valid through the SCTP National Championship for the discipline entered. Parental Consent and Waiver Forms need be filed only ONCE during a SCTP Target Year and are valid for ALL SCTP disciplines during the target year.

The following forms are located on the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp under "Team Resources for coaches":

- ✓ SCTP Team Registration Form [Form # F-1]
- ✓ SCTP Additional Coach Registration Form [Form #F-2]
- ✓ SCTP Parental Consent and Waiver Form [Form # F-3]
- ✓ SCTP Medical Consent Form

NOTE: National Championship squad entry forms will be addressed on an annual basis and will be based on event location and/or placement at the SCTP Championship. (see SCTP National Championships, rule 12-D)

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: Coaches are REQUIRED to retain photocopies of ALL forms submitted to NSSF.

SCTP TEAM REGISTRATION FORM. Coaches complete the SCTP Team Registration Form providing the following information in the spaces indicated on the form:

- State abbreviation and Coaches last name in the team ID field at the top of the form
- 2. Team name, discipline and division. (You may check multiple disciplines).
- 3. Coach's name, shipping address (no PO Boxes, please), daytime phone number, shirt size, fax number (if available), home phone number and e-mail address. [E-mail is our primary form of contact and the Head Coach e-mail address will be the only contact for the team. Please contact our office with updated information if your e-mail address changes during the season.]
- Name of the "Home" Gun Club or Shooting Facility, its mailing address, a contact person's name, club phone number and e-mail address.
- 5. Check one box to indicate if this form is your initial team registration for the specified discipline and division or if the registration is for additional team members in the same discipline and division.
- Submit each team member's name. Submit ONLY the names of team members for whom a completed Parental Consent Form is INCLUDED in the registration packet.

SCTP PARENTAL CONSENT FORM. A Parent or Legal Guardian and the participant complete, sign, and date the SCTP Parental Consent Form providing the following information in the spaces indicated on the form:

SCTP Parental Consent Forms must include the following information:

- 1. Fill in State abbreviation and coaches last name at the top of the form.
- Participant's name, address, phone number, e-mail address (if available), grade level as of January 1, division, category, gender, birth date and age.
- Circle the Participants NGB or National Governing Body (ATA, NSCA or NSSA) and include their NGB ID Number. If participating in more than one discipline, list all information on the consent form. (The NGB membership number is MANDATORY for participants having shot ANY registered

targets. For participants that have not shot registered targets, the membership number is not required until the SCTP State Championship).

- 4. Parents name, address, phone number and e-mail address.
- 5. Participant's signature and date.
- Parent/Legal Guardian's signature and date (if participant is under 18 years of age).

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: In order to participate in the SCTP, ALL team members MUST have a completed SCTP Parental Consent Form on file with the SCTP National Program Office, even if they are 18 or older. A parental or legal guardian's signature is required for anyone under 18 years of age. NO names for team registration will be accepted without an accompanying completed Parental Consent and Waiver Form.

F. No Alternates

THERE IS NO NEED TO REGISTER ANY PARTICIPANT AS AN ALTERNATE.

All participants registered 30 days prior to the SCTP State Shoot for a particular discipline are considered full team members.

G. Multi-disciplinary Team Registrations

A team may choose to enter one, any combination or all of the SCTP disciplines. If specifying a different "Home" Gun Club or Shooting Facility for any discipline, the coach must enter or submit a separate registration form.

H. Forms Submission Procedure

All forms must be completed in full, collected by the coach and submitted by the coach. This includes the SCTP Team Registration Form(s) and the SCTP Parental Consent Form for each team member. NO action will be taken on a team's registration request unless ALL required materials are received for a Basic Competitive Unit. Coaches MUST retain a copy of all forms submitted to SCTP National Headquarters.

SCTP Team Registration
National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.
SCTP National Headquarters
11 Mile Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470

I. Official SCTP Team Recognition

Teams MUST be officially recognized by the SCTP National Headquarters in order to participate in SCTP activities and events and to be eligible to receive SCTP materials and awards. Notification of SCTP official recognition will be sent to the coach by e-mail.

J. SCTP Team Apparel

Every registered participant of an officially recognized SCTP Team is eligible to receive a patch and pin. Coaches receive a shooting shirt, patch and pin. Apparel orders will be placed automatically. Any coach failing to provide size information will not receive a shirt.

K. Registration is a Contract

Each individual, by asking for and receiving recognition as a registered and willing team member or coach of an officially recognized Scholastic Clay Target Program Team, agrees to abide by the rules of the program and acknowledges that the decisions of the National Program Staff are FINAL (see National Program Staff, rule 8-A).

6. SAFETY: REQUIRED EQUIPMENT AND PROCEDURES

A. Eye and Ear Protection

ALL SCTP registered participants and coaches MUST wear EYE AND EAR PROTECTION during ALL SCTP practice and competitive events when within the confines of a Trap, Skeet, Sporting Clays or 5-Stand field.

B. Special SCTP Safety Rule for AMERICAN SKEET

Competitors may load only ONE cartridge when shooting their single high and low house American Skeet targets.

C. Special SCTP Safety Rule for ALL DISCIPLINES

No competitor is to use a toe pad or rest the barrel of their shotgun on any part of their foot. Any violation of this rule will be grounds for disqualification of the entire squad from the event.

7. RULES GOVERNING SCTP SHOOTS

All SCTP competitions at the local, regional, state, zone and national levels will be conducted in accordance with the rules of the discipline's National Governing Body (see Sanctioning Bodies, rule 1B & C) AND the rules of the Scholastic Clay Target Program.

8. GOVERNANCE OF THE SCHOLASTIC CLAY TARGET PROGRAM

A. SCTP National Program Staff

The SCTP National Program Staff (NPS) is responsible for the organization and direction of the SCTP. The National Program Staff is the arbiter and final authority for making decisions on SCTP issues.

All correspondence to the National Program Staff should be addressed to:

National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.

SCTP National Headquarters
11 Mile Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470-2359
E-Mail Address: sctp@nssf.org.
Web site: www.nssf.org/sctp

B. Special Exception

The SCTP National Program Staff may, in very exceptional circumstances, grant a waiver or allow a special exception to a provision or provisions of the SCTP rules. Any such decision(s) made will be made while keeping the best interests of the participant(s) and the program in mind. Decisions of the National Program Staff are **FINAL**.

C. SCTP State Directors

SCTP Volunteer State Directors are the program's "Resource Central" for the SCTP in their state. They provide SCTP coaches with up-to date program information, maintain an open line of communication with gun clubs sponsoring SCTP teams and actively pursue increased participation.

During the SCTP State Championship State Directors are responsible for ensuring that teams are properly registered and that a procedure is in place for keeping and posting teams' scores. State Directors certify the winning teams' scores to the SCTP National Headquarters.

State Directors may appoint a committee to assist in conducting the State SCTP Championship, hearing protests related to eligibility, conducting shootoffs and assisting with other SCTP tasks as needed.

Any issues regarding violation of SCTP rules will first be heard by a SCTP State Director. If the issue cannot be resolved (or if there is no SCTP State Director in the state) the issue may be appealed directly to the SCTP National Program Staff.

9. APPEALS

Issues that could not be settled at the state level or at SCTP National Championship events may be appealed to the National Program Staff. All appeals are reviewed and either upheld or denied by the National Program Staff. An appeal filed with the NPS must be based on the violation of a specific SCTP rule. All appeals must conform to the following requirements:

A. Issue in Dispute

The issue in dispute must involve violation of a specific SCTP Rule or Rules.

B. Eligible Appellants

Appeals may be filed <u>ONLY by a SCTP competitor!</u> The injured or aggrieved party MUST be a registered member of a an officially recognized SCTP team. **Appeals from anyone other than from a <u>registered SCTP Competitor</u>

WILL NOT be considered.**

C. Filing Procedure

Within seventy-two (72) hours of the incident an eligible appellant must submit a written appeal to the NPS specifying which SCTP rule was violated and a statement of facts as to how the rule was violated. The complaint must include the date and specific location of the violation and the names of any witnesses to the violation. Appeals may be transmitted via FAX or e-mail, but a written hard copy with the date and an original signature must be mailed to the SCTP National Headquarters.

All appeals must include a \$50 filing fee that will be held until a decision is made. This fee will be returned if the ruling is in favor of the appellant; if the ruling is not in favor of the appellant, the filing fee will be forfeited.

D. National Program Staff Response to Appellant

Within ten (10) days of the receipt of the mailed copy of the appeal, the National Program Staff will send the Appellant a written notice of its decision. The decisions of the National Program Staff are **FINAL**.

10. SPECIAL SCTP RULES

A. Registered Targets

All targets shot at SCTP State and National Championships must be registered with the appropriate National Governing Body.

B. Eligibility for SCTP State and National Championship Events

A SCTP State Championship event **MUST BE** conducted in the discipline in which a state plans to send a squad in that specific discipline to the SCTP National Championship event. In order for individual team members to be entered in and compete at a SCTP National Championship event for a particular discipline ALL members **MUST** have shot as a registered SCTP Team member in that discipline at THEIR SCTP State Championship (the state where the "Home Club" is located) during the SAME SCTP Target Year.

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: For all SCTP related events, team members

must be accompanied by their coach. In the event the coach cannot be present, he/she must designate an adult (21 years of age or older) to supervise the team. Violation of this rule will result in the immediate expulsion of the coach from the SCTP.

C. Shotgun Action Type, Allowable Bore Sizes and Condition

All SCTP disciplines may be shot with the competitor's choice of shotgun action type as long as the bore size is 12 gauge or smaller and the shotgun is in a safe and serviceable condition.

D. Special American Skeet SCTP Rule (also listed as rule 6-B, above)
Competitors may load only ONE cartridge when shooting single American Skeet targets.

E. Distinction Between Team and Squad

A **TEAM** is the entire group of individuals registered at a "Home" Gun Club or Shooting Facility. A **SQUAD** is the Basic Competitive Unit representing a team. There can be SEVERAL SQUADS on a TEAM.

F. Special SCTP Safety Rule for ALL DISCIPLINES

No competitor is to use a toe pad or rest the barrel of their shotgun on any part of their foot. Any violation of this rule will be grounds for disqualification of the entire squad from the event.

11. SCTP STATE CHAMPIONSHIPS

A. Championship Events

SCTP State Championships are contested in either 100 or 200 target races. The Rookie Division Championship is a 100 target race, unless conducted over 2 days. The decision of a 100 or 200 target race is up to the state director, with input from the coaches. If there is no state director then whoever is organizing the State Championship shall decide and contact National Headquarters.

The disciplines and events are:

TRAP - 16-Yard Singles

AMERICAN SKEET - Regulation Rounds

SPORTING CLAYS - Walk Through

B. Event Scheduling

State Trap, American Skeet, and Sporting Clays affiliates of the NGB's sanctioning SCTP events will conduct a SCTP State Championship during its annual State Shoot. In some cases, due to overcrowding at an NGB state shoot or to scheduling conflicts, the SCTP State Championship must be held at a different time and place.

The State Director of the discipline will contact the SCTP National Headquarters with its SCTP State Championship details for the discipline. It shall be held at a time and place agreed to by the majority of all SCTP officially recognized teams in the state wishing to enter the event. The event must be registered with the appropriate NGB and scores relayed to the SCTP National Headquarters within 72 hours. All SCTP State Championship Events MUST be registered shoots.

C. State Championship Entry Procedure

Entry into a SCTP State Championship requires the Coach to submit a SCTP STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SQUAD ENTRY FORM to the SCTP National Headquarters for each SQUAD entered. The SCTP State Championship Squad Entry Form MUST be submitted electronically through the Login page of the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp. Once a coach has logged in (by entering their Login ID and Password) through the Login page, they can build a squad for their state shoot by clicking on the State Shoot Squad Builder tab. Submitting entry forms electronically via the Web site has several advantages. The Squad Entry Form will be available to the State Director(s) and SCTP National Staff Members upon completion of the form. Squad forms are due 21 days prior to the designated SCTP state shoot. Failure to submit the Squad Entry Form in a timely manner can result in disqualification. Coaches that do not have access to the Internet, should contact either their SCTP State Director or SCTP headquarters for assistance with the squad entry procedure. Please note that the competitors school grade level must be the grade enrolled in as of January 1 for the current SCTP Target Year. Changes may be made to Squad Forms, by coaches, via the web up to 72 hours before the shoot as long as the substitution does not alter the division and category of the squad. Coaches should then print off a revised squad form to submit to the state director upon registering for the state shoot. After 72 hours coaches will need to contact the state director or whoever is running the state shoot to make any last minute adjustments.

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: We urge coaches to reiterate to their shooters the importance of making a commitment to their team and squad.

D. Basic Competitive Unit

To be officially entered in a SCTP State Championship a SQUAD must be a SCTP Basic Competitive Unit (see Basic Competitive Unit, rule 4-B).

E. Squads Per Team

A coach may enter as many squads as there are team members to fill out complete squads. Coaches are free to decide who shoots on what squad so long as Division and Category requirements are met. Squad members cannot be mixed across Divisions. Squads must be designated by submitting a squad entry form no later than 21 days prior to the SCTP State Championship.

F. Entry Deadline

All SCTP STATE CHAMPIONSHIP SQUAD ENTRY FORMS **MUST** be completed via the Web site no later than **21 days** prior to the designated SCTP State Championship for the discipline entered.

G. Individual Participation

Every participant registered by the 30-day deadline on an officially recognized SCTP Team is eligible to shoot at the SCTP State Championship. Teams unable to place every team member on a full squad for official entry into the SCTP State Championship should take these extra members along and allow them to shoot for the experience. State Directors will assist in amalgamating squads of SCTP participants not officially entered into the SCTP State Championship. These individuals must be members of the discipline's NGB.

H. Squad Substitutions

Changes may be made to the SCTP State Championship Squad Entry Form prior to the event. Substitutes must be members of the team and must have been registered THIRTY (30) DAYS prior to the SCTP State Championship. The head coach for the team is the only person allowed to make changes. Coaches may make changes to their squad forms via the Web site up to 72 hours before the state shoot as long as the substitution does not alter the division and category of the squad. After this they need to contact the State Director prior to registering their squad the day of the shoot.

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: NO SUBSTITUTIONS will be allowed after a competitor FIRES THE FIRST SHOT at a legal target. Once a squad member fires at a legal target in the SCTP State Championship event his/her score will be counted as part of the squad's aggregate score even if he/she cannot finish the event.

I. No Alternates

There is no need to register any participant as an Alternate. Every team member registered 30 days prior to the SCTP State Shoot for a particular discipline may be entered on any squad at the SCTP State Shoot for that discipline up until the time the first shot is fired, as long as the division and category requirements are met for that squad.

J. SCTP State Championship Squad Entry Form Submission Procedure
Coaches must use the SCTP Web site (see rule 11 C.)

NO SQUAD will be entered in any SCTP State Championship without a SCTP State Championship Squad Entry Form on file in the SCTP National Headquarters.

K. State Director's Action

Squad forms submitted via the Web site will be visible to the appropriate State Director immediately. State Directors should immediately contact the discipline's appropriate state association's officials to inform them of the number of SCTP entries. If problems are encountered with scheduling an alternate plan for the SCTP State Shoot must be put in place (see Event Scheduling, 11-B).

L. Score Tabulation

If possible, shoot management will compile the squad scores electronically. The SCTP State Director will check and post the scores. Squad scores are based on the combined scores of the squad's members (five [5] for Trap; three [3] for American Skeet and Sporting Clays). A squad in each Division with the highest aggregate score for the number of targets scored "dead or hit" out of the ones attempted will be the winner.

M. Shootoffs at State Championships

In the event of a tie between or among Squads for 1st, 2nd, or 3rd place in the same division a shoot off will be employed to determine the champion or place of finish. Ties in all three disciplines will be settled by shootoffs. Five (5) championships in each discipline will be decided: Rookie Champion, Intermediate- Entry Level Champion, Intermediate- Advanced Champion, Junior Varsity Champion and Varsity Champion.

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: A squad qualifying for a shootoff MUST shoot in the shootoff OR have its score from the main event entered as its final score. ONLY those squad members who qualified the squad for the shootoff will be allowed to shoot in the shootoff. NO SUBSTITUTIONS!

N. Shootoff Procedures

TRAP - Shootoffs will be conducted only to break ties. Shootoff rounds will be shot from the 16-yard line, "miss-and-out by post." Each member of the squad shoots one target from post one for a possible score of five (5). The team with the most targets scored "dead" or "hit" is the winner. If a tie still exists, squads move to post two and so on until a squad winner is determined. If still tied after the first shootoff round, subsequent "miss and out by post" shootoff rounds will be shot from the 22-yard line until a winner is determined. If still tied after second round subsequent "miss-and out-by post" shootoff rounds will be shot from the 27-yard line.

SPORTING CLAYS - Shootoffs will be conducted only to break ties between or among squads. Shootoffs may be conducted only on a Walk-Through Sporting Clays course, a Five-Stand field or a Compak layout. The Shootoff will be a "Miss and Out" competition. The Squad with the "Last Shooter Standing" will be the winner. The Shoot Director will choose the target

presentations and may change the presentations between rounds so long as all shoot off participants shoot the same presentations. All target presentations will be TRUE PAIRS. All members of each squad in the shootoff will shoot in the first shootoff round. Any shooter missing one or both targets will be eliminated from the shootoff. Only those shooters hitting both targets are still "Alive" and will be allowed to move to the next round of the shootoff competition except for the following situations:

- If <u>NONE</u> of the shootoff participants hit a target, then all shooters are still "ALIVE" and move to the next round in the shootoff.
- If no shooter hits both targets, but some shooters hit one target, then only those hitting one target are still "ALIVE" and move to the next round in the shootoff.

Shooters that are still "ALIVE" continue to repeat the process until one member (or members) of the same squad is the "LAST SHOOTER(S) STANDING." This squad is declared the winner.

AMERICAN SKEET - Shootoffs will be conducted only in the event of ties. All shootoffs will be DOUBLES shot from stations 3-4-5, "miss-and-out by station." All squad members shoot Doubles from Station 3. The winning squad is determined by counting each squad's total score on the station. The squad with the greatest number of targets scored "dead" or "hit" is the winner. If still tied, squad members that are still "alive" move to the next station and repeat the process until a squad winner is determined.

O. Certification of State Winners

The SCTP State Director for each discipline will submit the Squad Entry Forms of the top three scoring SQUADS in the competition, separated by Division and indicating in the box at the top of the page the place (i.e., 1st, 2nd, 3rd) the squad finished. These forms are to be submitted electronically through the Register/Login page on the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp. If the State Director does not have access to the internet, he/she will have to date, sign in ink and submit the forms to the SCTP National Headquarters by FAX within seventy two (72) hours f the shoot's conclusion.

If there is no SCTP State Director for the discipline:

Coaches must bring a copy of their squad form to the State Competition. The scores from the event and the place in which the squad finished must be entered on the squad form. It must be dated and signed in ink by either the NGB delegate, the Shoot Director or the Club Manager. The signed copy of the SCTP State Championship Squad Entry Form must then be returned by FAX or mail to the SCTP National Headquarters within seventy two (72) hours of the shoots conclusion. Upon receipt of the signed form, awards will be issued to the head coach for the top three placing SCTP squads in each division.

P. Awards for State Winners

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. will provide awards for the winning squads - 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places - at the SCTP State Championships in Trap, American Skeet, and Sporting Clays.

SCTP STATE CHAMPIONSHIP AWARDS

SCTP State awards will be presented to the squads finishing in the top three places in each Division and Category. Each squad member will receive:

1st Place Squad 2nd Place Squad 3rd Place Squad SCTP 1st Place Award SCTP 2nd Place Award SCTP 3rd Place Award

The head coach for each of the SCTP State Championship Squads will also receive a SCTP State Championship Award identical to the one the squad members receive.

12. SCTP NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIPS

A. Championship Events

SCTP National Championships will be contested in these disciplines:

TRAP – 16-Yard Singles

SKEET - Regulation Rounds

SPORTING CLAYS – Walk Through

BUNKER TRAP – Regulation Rounds

INTERNATIONAL SKEET – Regulation Rounds

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: ALL SCTP National Championship Events for ALL Divisions in each discipline will be <u>200-target</u> races with the exception of Olympic Trap and International Skeet which will depend on the number of participants (if possible these two disciplines will be 125 target races followed by a 25 target final for the top 6 shooters in each discipline). Locations of these events will be announced.

B. Eligibility to Compete

TRAP, SKEET and SPORTING CLAYS: In order to be eligible to compete in a SCTP National Championship, participants would of had to register with the team THIRTY DAYS prior to the current SCTP Target Year's SCTP State Championship for that particular discipline and shot in that SCTP State Championship as a registered Team Member. Those wishing to compete in International Skeet or Olympic Trap National Championship will have to compete and qualify in their State Junior Olympic (JO) Match. If your state is not hosting a JO Match, shooters may either attend a neighboring states match or compete in the USA Shooting National Championship which will grant them an automatic invite to the SCTP JO National Championship for International Skeet and Olympic Trap.

C. Shotgun Action Type, Allowable Bore Sizes and Condition

A competitor may choose any shotgun action type so long as the bore size is 12 gauge or smaller and the shotgun is in a safe and serviceable condition.

D. Entry Procedure

SKEET/SPORTING CLAYS

Squad entry forms for the National Event will be available through the Register/Login page (Head Coaches will have to Login using their Login ID and password and then build a squad through the National Squad Builder tab) on the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp. Coaches MUST also submit a SCTP American Skeet and/or Sporting Clays National Championship Squad Entry Form and mail the shoot fees to the host club by a date to be announced later in the SCTP season. Failure to submit the Squad Entry Form by the specified deadline can result in disqualification.

TRAP

Coaches MUST submit a SCTP Trap National Championship Squad Entry Form via the Register/Login page on the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp, using their login ID and password, prior to the shoot. Coaches of qualifying teams who do not have Internet access should contact their State Director or SCTP National Headquarters for assistance. Failure to submit the Squad Entry Form by the specified deadline can result in disqualification. Additional details will be announced during the SCTP season.

E. Basic Competitive Unit

To be officially entered in a SCTP National Championship a SQUAD must be a SCTP Basic Competitive Unit (see Team Minimum Requirement, rule 4-B).

F. Squad Members and Substitutions

ALL DISCIPLINES

Eligible squads for the SCTP Nationals are allowed to make one (1) substitution, to the squad that competed at the designated SCTP state shoot. In order to be eligible as a substitute one must have participated in their designated state shoot as a registered team member. Substitutions/changes made to a squad must fit within the division/category definition of the original squad submitted.

G. Shootoff Procedures

TRAP - Shootoffs will only be conducted to break ties.

Same as procedure on page 21 for trap.

SPORTING CLAYS - Shootoffs will be conducted only to break ties. Same as procedure on page 21 for Sporting Clays.

AMERICAN SKEET - Shootoffs will be conducted only in the event of ties. All shootoffs will be DOUBLES shot from stations 3-4-5, "miss-and-out".

H. Score Tabulation

The NGB managing the shoot will compile the squad scores electronically. The SCTP National Program Staff will check and post the scores.

I. National Championship Winners

Winners will be named in the following Divisions and Categories:

ROOKIE DIVISION (1st, 2nd & 3rd Places)

INTERMEDIATE DIVISION (1st, 2nd & 3rd Places in both Entry Level and Advanced Categories)

SENIOR DIVISION (1st, 2nd & 3rd Places in both Junior Varsity and Varsity Categories).

J. Awards for National Winners

The National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. and the National Governing Bodies will provide awards for the winning squads - 1st, 2nd and 3rd places - at the SCTP National Championships in Trap, American Skeet, and Sporting Clays.

Each member of a squad finishing in the top three places in the Intermediate-Advanced and Senior-Varsity Categories will receive:

1st Place Squad SCTP National Champion's Award \$1000 Scholarship Savings Bond 2nd Place Squad SCTP 2nd Place Award \$500 Scholarship Savings Bond

3rd Place Squad SCTP 3rd Place Award \$250 Scholarship Savings Bond

Each member of a squad finishing in the top three places in the Intermediate-Entry Level and Senior-Junior Varsity Categories will receive:

1st Place Squad SCTP National Champion's Award \$500 Scholarship Savings Bond **2nd Place Squad** SCTP 2nd Place Award

\$250 Scholarship Savings Bond

3rd Place Squad SCTP 3rd Place Award \$100 Scholarship Savings Bond

IMPORTANT, PLEASE NOTE: Recipients of I-Bonds must complete a "series I order for U.S. Savings Bonds" form. Recipients Social Security number is required. Forms will be available on-site and may be completed and returned immediately or mailed to SCTP Headquarters after the event. All forms must be completed and received at SCTP National Headquarters by September 1 or the bond will be forfeited. Recipients who return the form by the specified deadline should receive their I-Bond by December 1. If not received by December 1, contact SCTP Head Quarters immediately.

Each member of a squad finishing in the top three places in the Rookie Division will receive:

1st Place Squad 2nd Place Squad

SCTP National Champion's Award SCTP 2nd Place Award

3rd Place Squad SCTP 3rd Place Award

The head coach for each of the top three winning SCTP National Championship Squads in each Division and Category will receive a team award, but no savings bond.

K. Declaration of Winning Squads

The SCTP National Program Staff (NPS) will declare all winners. Results will be posted on the SCTP Scoreboard at the shoot as soon as all the scores have been carefully checked. Each squad's score and overall standing in each event will be posted on the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp. Decisions of the NPS are FINAL.

13. SCTP JUNIOR OLYMPIC DEVELOPMENT CAMP

U.S.A. Shooting, the National Governing Body for Olympic Clay Target Sports in the United States, has joined with the NSSF to provide an unmatched experience for outstanding SCTP athletes and coaches. Each September, U.S.A. Shooting and the NSSF jointly conduct a special camp - the SCTP's Junior Olympic Development Camp (JODC) - at the United States Olympic Training Center (OTC) in Colorado Springs, Colorado. A maximum of 28 slots are made available from U.S.A. Shooting, 18 athletes and 10 coaches. Registered, active participants in all SCTP disciplines are eligible to apply.

Participants are housed and take their meals on the OTC complex with the Olympic athletes. U.S.A. Shooting furnishes lodging, meals, ammunition, targets and the best coaching available in the country to SCTP athletes aspiring to become members of the U.S. Olympic Shotgun Team. The SCTP JODC is staffed by the U.S.A.'s Olympic Shotgun Coaches who provide SCTP athletes with an unmatched opportunity to advance their skills in Olympic Trap and Skeet. SCTP coaches apprentice with the Olympic coaches and perform hands-on coaching under their supervision. In addition to apprenticing with Olympic coaches, SCTP coaches are offered the opportunity to earn the credential of CERTIFIED SHOTGUN COACH sanctioned by the U.S.A. Shooting/N.R.A/CMP training consortium.

SCTP athletes applying for the SCTP's JODC must be 12 years of age or older. Successful applicants will be selected through a two-step process—an initial application screening followed by an interview. ALL applicants whose applications successfully pass the initial screening process will be granted an interview. Personal interviews will be conducted when available. A telephonic interview will be conducted for those unable to be personally

interviewed. IT IS VERY IMPORTANT THAT CORRECT DAYTIME AND EVENING TELEPHONE NUMBERS ARE NOTED ON THE APPLICATION. A

cell phone number is recommended. Athletes and Coaches can apply for this camp by submitting their application (written essay on why you would like to go and what you hope to gain from the camp as well as any other activities or youth groups you are currently involved in) electronically through the SCTP Web site at www.nssf.org/sctp. Once you have submitted your application form electronically you then must mail any supporting documentation or recommendations as well as a picture of yourself to the SCTP National Headquarters. All applications and recommendations must be received by June 1 in order to be eligible for the camp. Selection of participants will be completed and all applicants notified via e-mail. IT IS VERY

IMPORTANT THAT A CORRECT E-MAIL ADDRESS IS NOTED ON THE APPLICATION FORM. The selection list will also be posted on the SCTP Web site. Recommendations and pictures can be shipped to the following address:

National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. SCTP Headquarters (Att: JODC Application) 11 Mile Hill Rd Newtown, CT 06470-2359 203-426-1320 203-426-1087 (fax)

14. CONTACT THE SCHOLASTIC CLAY TARGET PROGRAM

Mailing Address: National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc.

SCTP National Headquarters

11 Mile Hill Road

Newtown, CT 06470-2359

FAX Number: (203) 426-1087
Submitting State and National
Championship Squad Entry Forms
if unable to submit via the Web site.

E-mail Address: sctp@nssf.org
Questions regarding the program.

Telephone Number: (203) 426-1320 When all else fails. SCTP Web site: www.nssf.org/sctp
Registering teams, submitting squad entry forms for state and national competitions, downloading forms, accessing or downloading the handbook, accessing up-to-date program info, looking up coaches, team locations and state directors and finding SCTP state shoot dates.

15. IMPORTANT INFORMATION

A. Solicitation Activities

If organizations and individuals decide to solicit financial contributions or other assistance from local businesses or other third parties to support their participation in the SCTP, they must do so in their own names. Organizations and individuals are strictly prohibited from using the NSSF name and NSSF's non-profit classification or claiming any affiliation with the NSSF or any of the NSSF's affiliate companies in their solicitation activities. Organizations and individuals accepting financial contributions or other assistance in connection

with their participation in the SCTP shall be solely responsible for collecting, recording, disseminating, substantiating and reporting all contributions or support they receive. Neither the NSSF nor the SCTP shall be responsible for any activities that organizations or individuals may engage in with respect to their participation in the SCTP. Any questions regarding tax deductibility should be directed to your financial advisor.

B. SCTP Logo

"Scholastic Clay Target Program"," "SCTP"," and the SCTP logo are trademarks or registered trademarks of and proprietary to the NSSF. Organizations and individuals, whether participating in the SCTP or not, are prohibited from using the SCTP trademarks without the prior written consent of the NSSF. To obtain consent to use SCTP trademarks, please send a written request to:

National Shooting Sports Foundation, Inc. SCTP National Headquarters
11 Mile Hill Road
Newtown, CT 06470 - 2359

FAX: (203) 426-1087

Send an email to dvrablic@nssf.org or zsnow@nssf.org or smorton@nssf.org using "Trademarks Permission" in the subject line.

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